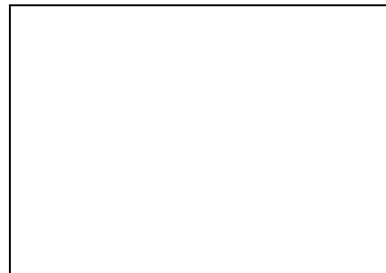




Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
7 October 1980

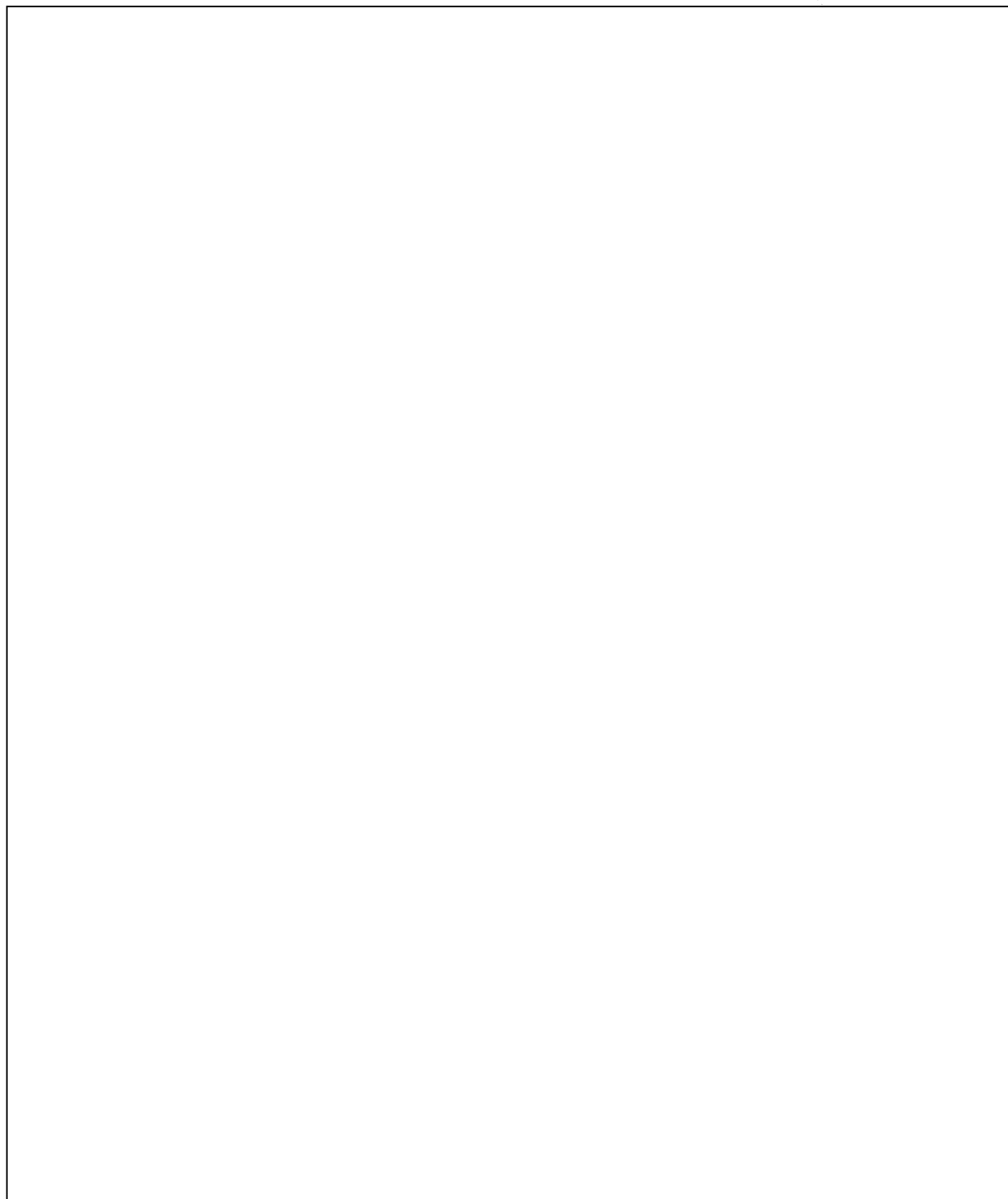
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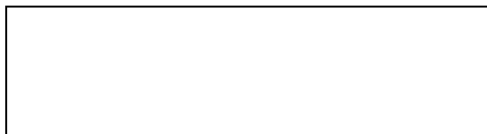
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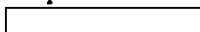
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Situation Reports

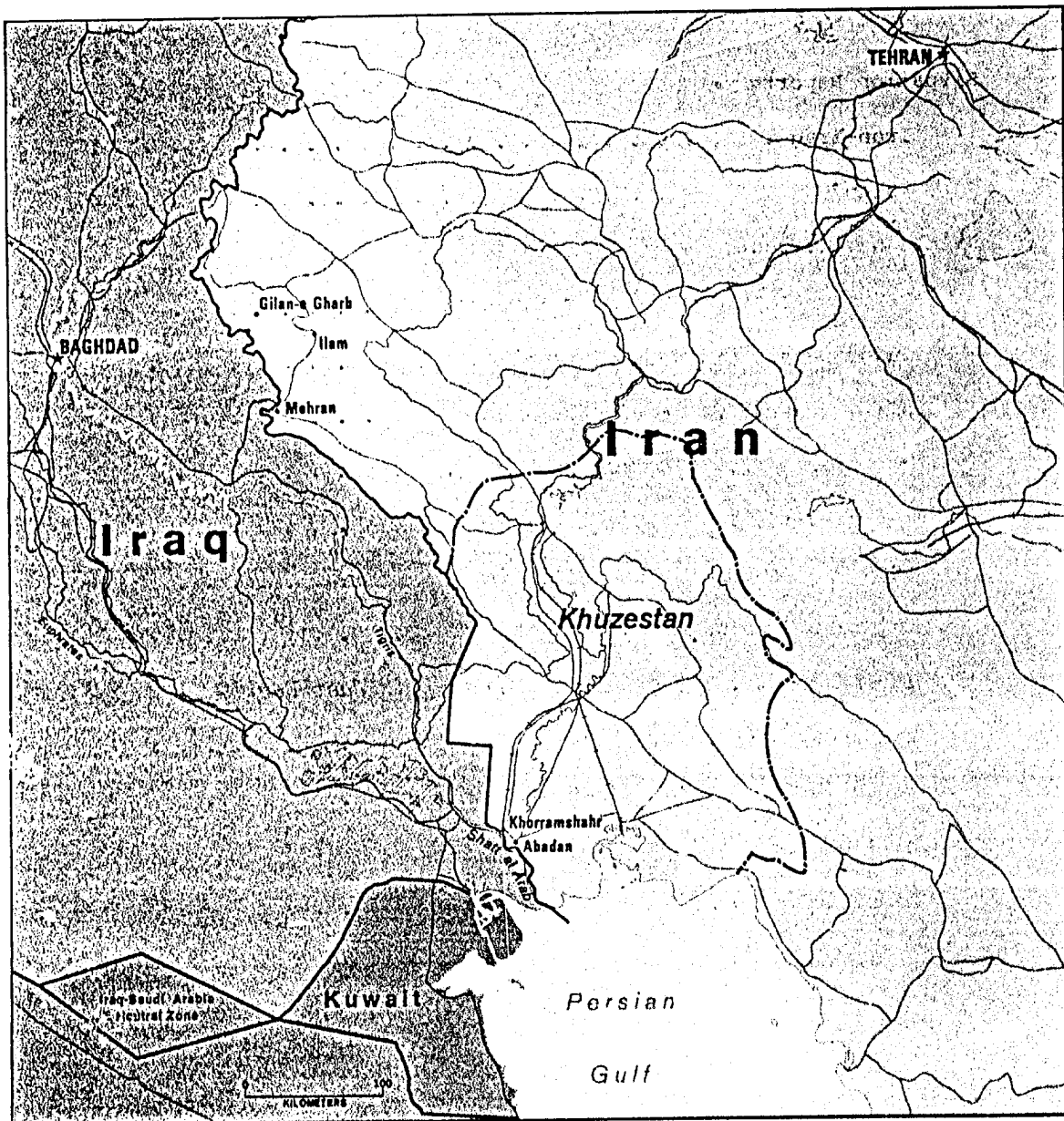
Iran-Iraq 1



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SITUATION REPORTS

IRAN-IRAQ

Tehran was bombed for a second consecutive day yesterday, and Iraqi aircraft also struck military and economic targets in western Iran.

Mood in Baghdad

[redacted] civilian and military morale in Baghdad remains high and [redacted] diplomatic speculation on President Saddam Hussein's political demise is premature. [redacted] Iraqi enthusiasm for the fighting appears to be waning as Iraqi civilians see evidence that the conflict has direct costs:

--The Iranian Air Force continues to hit Baghdad and other Iraqi cities.

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- Thousands of foreign workers and their dependents are leaving Iraq.
- Baghdad University has suspended classes indefinitely, while elementary and secondary schools appear to have closed temporarily.
- Public funerals of Iraqi soldiers killed in the fighting are more numerous. []

Iraq's hopes for a quick victory have been dashed. Its strategy now is probably to wear down Iranian resistance since the Iraqis may estimate that the Iranian military cannot continue its current level of operations much longer and will soon have significant shortages of fuel and spare parts. []

The prospect for a longer war has made Iraq especially sensitive to any sign that foreign governments are supplying Iran with military supplies. Recent Iraqi press commentary, as well as charges by Iraqi Defense Minister Talfah that the US is supplying Iran with spare parts, reflect Iraq's concern that Washington and Tehran will make a deal involving arms and the hostages. []

Inside Iran

President Bani-Sadr's newspaper in editorials over the weekend sharply criticized his clerical opponents for their purges of the officer corps before the war with Iraq. The paper criticized "narrow-minded Muslim fundamentalists"

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[redacted]

who sought to weaken the armed forces and asked, "What would have been the fate of Iran today if they had succeeded in the plans to eliminate our Army?" (U)

Bani-Sadr is probably attempting to seize the political initiative. He undoubtedly fears that the clerics will blame him for Iran's military setbacks because he has been commander in chief of the armed forces since last February, and assumed direct command of the war effort shortly before the Iraqi offensive into Khuzestan. [redacted]

[redacted]

Soviet Reaction

The Soviets for the first time have sought to suggest that a possible Western naval force in the Persian Gulf would impinge on the USSR's security interests. [redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]
7 October 1980

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